

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline answers an energy need for North Carolina and moves our state away from high-pollution alternatives like coal-fired power plants.

- The ACP will lead to more Natural Gas being used to generate electricity, reducing CO2 emissions and North Carolina's carbon footprint.
- The ultimate goal is an energy future powered with 100% renewable energy. North Carolina is leading the way toward this goal and is second in the nation in solar energy.
- However, the path to running fully on 100% renewable energy will take time and we need a plan to meet our state's energy needs in the meantime. Until then, we will need other energy sources to move us away from the pollution of coal fired power plants.

Through the regulatory process, state officials have taken rigorous steps to ensure safe construction and preserve clean water and the integrity of communities along the pipeline.

- DEQ required ACP to submit additional application information on five occasions.
- Regulators at DEQ will continue to insist on clean water, effective sedimentation control and high air quality along the path of construction.
- The same people who write the permits also will be diligent in holding the project accountable for water land and air safety.

With increased access to natural gas, we can recruit jobs, economic development, and growth where our state needs it most.

Additionally, we have established a new fund that will provide \$57.8 million to be used for initiatives that reduce the carbon footprint and expand renewable energy. Funds can also be used to ensure local communities benefit economically from the pipeline.

- This fund, provided by the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, will be dedicated solely to North Carolina.
- It has two purposes: First,
 - Making this region of our state more carbon neutral.
 - Spurring economic development in business-ready communities in eastern North Carolina that lack access to natural gas.

Bottom Line: The Atlantic Coast Pipeline answers a vital energy need for North Carolina and moves our state toward a cleaner energy future. Rigorous steps have been taken to protect clean land and water along the path of the pipeline and a new fund has been established to ensure environmental protection and spur economic development in Eastern North Carolina. Additionally, access to natural gas will stimulate economic development and growth in areas that need it most.